(c) whether the system is a satellite-based one or is going to be on the lines of CAT-III ILS; and

(d) how the modern navigation help flights to land in near zero visibility conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) in collaboration with Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) is in the process of developing a space Based Augmentation System called as Geo Aided GPS Augmented Navigation (GAGAN) for augmentation of the performance of core GPS over the India airspace. The coverage of ground based conventional navigation aids is limited by line of sight. Satellite-based system would be able to extend the coverage over the foot print of Geo-stationary Satellite in use.

(c) This is a Satellite based system.

(d) The modern Satellite based system is aimed at meeting the requirements of providing landing guidance upto near zero visibility.

Direct flight between Delhi and Patna

†1489. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no arrangement has been made for daily direct flight of Indian between Delhi to Patna and *vice-versa*;

(b) whether the air route flight No. IC 809 and 810 of Indian has been fixed from New Delhi to Patna and from Patna to New Delhi *via* Ranchi respectively;

(c) whether the passengers have to depend on private sector's flights due to the lack of arrangement for direct flight of Indian between Patna to New Delhi and *vice-versa*; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Although Indian Airlines is presently

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

not operating any direct air service between Delhi and Patna, its subsidiary, Alliance Air, is operating direct flight between Delhi and Patna and *vice-versa* on 3 days in a week. In addition, Indian Airlines is operating daily service between Delhi and Patna on the route Ranchi-Patna-Ranchi-Delhi-Mumbai.

(c) and (d) In addition to Alliance Air's direct operation between Delhi and Patna and Indian Airlines' operation on the Sector Mumbai-Delhi-Ranchi-Patna and return, Jet Airways and Air Deccan's daily flight on Delhi-Patna-Delhi and Sahara Airlines' daily flight on the sector Delhi-Patna-Varanasi-Delhi are also available.

Upgradation of Bangalore Airport

1490. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken in the immediate short term to upgrade facilities and increase capacity at the current HAL Bangalore International Airport; and

(b) whether the Airports Authority of India would use the domestic terminal infrastructure to serve International traffic especially late night and early morning when there are much fewer or no domestic flights and passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has undertaken and completed expansion and modification of International and Domestic terminal buildings to ease congestion and to augment the facilities in HAL Airport, Bangalore in July, 2006 which, *inter-alia* include realignment of 13 check-in-counters and security hold area, provision of one additional lift and conveyor, air-conditioning of entire terminal in International terminal building and extension of check-in-area and security hold area and provision of six extra check-in-counters in Domestic terminal building.

(b) Yes, Sir. AAI has a proposal to use Domestic terminal building to serve International traffic when there are fewer or no domestic flights.